

FULL NAME	DUTY TO COOPERATE	LEGALLY COMPLIANT	SOUND	WHICH PART	WHICH PARAGRAPHS	WHICH POLICY	WHICH POLICY MAP	WHICH DIAGRAM	WHICH TABLE
Dr Francis Barnard	No	No	No	Policy		The Local Plan should always be 'Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity', not just when considering development? Policy EV6 (para. 2): Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity			

WHY PLAN NOT SOUND	MODIFICATIONS	HEARINGS	HEARING SESSIONS
<p>4(2) Not sound, not positively prepared</p> <p>NPPF 17 (2018 version) makes it clear that plan making is not just about development, but also use of land in general.</p> <p>The development plan must include strategic policies to address each local planning authority’s priorities for the development and use of land in its area</p> <p>Local Plan Policy EV6 states</p> <p>We will conserve, restore and enhance our natural environment for its own value and the contribution it makes to our communities and economy and ensure it is resilient to current and future pressures.</p> <p>However, EV6 remains only reactive to development proposals whereas it should be pro-active in specifying exactly where are these areas of biodiversity and geodiversity importance in Charnwood and to provide a plan of how they will be protected.</p> <p>Further, the second paragraph of EV6 begins with the phrase that</p> <p>We will support development that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• protects and enhances national and local priority habitats and species;• protects and enhances irreplaceable habitats including trees, veteran trees and ancient woodland; etc. <p>The Local Plan should be more positive in protecting biodiversity and geodiversity, not just ‘supporting development that will not damage’. Phrasing policies in such a way that the default is (or at least appears to be) in favour of supporting development, is more likely to attract developers who will then seek to find ways to show they are able to overcome the prescribed list of environmental and ecological issues. Instead, by rephrasing policies to start from the assumption of not supporting development, this immediately establishes that a higher standard of evidence will need to be provided by developers. This is a subtle but important difference that needs to be made if we are serious about protecting biodiversity and geodiversity in Charnwood.</p>	<p>Two modifications are needed</p> <p>(1) The Council must specify the physical locations of the areas of biodiversity and geodiversity that are to be protected.</p> <p>(2) The Council should not be using phrase support development. Instead, the assumption should be in favour of no development.</p> <p>EV6 should become</p> <p>We will not support development unless it can be demonstrated that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• protects and enhances national and local priority habitats and species;• protects and enhances irreplaceable habitats including trees, veteran trees and ancient woodland; etc	<p>No</p>	